

Patent Application No 09/879,719

microorganism in the cell culture and varying the flow rate and/or composition of the aerating fluid.

23. (Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the method comprises varying the flow rate of the aerating fluid.
24. (Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the method comprises varying a composition of the aerating fluid.

#### REMARKS

Applicant's undersigned attorney would like to thank the Examiner for the courteously conducted interview on January 9, 2003. The claims have been amended as suggested by the Examiner during the interview.

In light of the foregoing, Applicant believes that this application is in form for allowance. The Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicant's undersigned attorney if the Examiner believes that issues remain regarding the allowability of this application.

Respectfully submitted,  
DANN, DORFMAN, HERRELL & SKILLMAN  
A Professional Corporation  
Attorneys for Applicant(s)

By

  
Stephen H. Eland  
PTO Registration No. 41,010

Telephone: (215) 563-4100  
Facsimile: (215) 563-4044

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**CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

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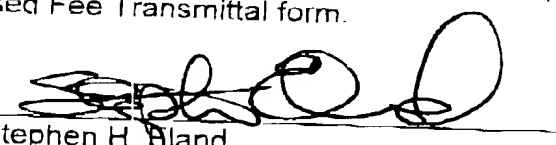
January 31, 2003  
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Christine Edinger

**Petition for Extension Under 37 CFR §1.136(a)**

Applicant's undersigned Attorney hereby petitions for an extension of time of **THREE** months beyond the time period set in the last office communication. The proper fee is enclosed as identified in the enclosed Fee Transmittal form.

January 31, 2003  
Date of Certificate

  
Stephen H. Gland  
PTO Registration No. 41,010

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## ATTACHMENT A

1. (Twice Amended) A method for culturing cells of microorganisms, comprising the steps of:
  - providing a flexible sterile plastic reservoir;
  - introducing a culture media into the reservoir;
  - inoculating the culture media with a cell or microorganisms to provide a cell suspension for culturing the cell or microorganism;
  - aerating the cell suspension with an aerating fluid at a flow rate wherein the aerating fluid comprises a gas;
  - detecting a growth characteristic of the cell or microorganism in the cell suspension; and
  - ~~varying at least one of the flow rate of the aerating fluid and/or the composition~~ of the aerating fluid in response to the detected characteristic.
10. (Twice Amended) A method for culturing cells and/or a microorganism, comprising the steps of:
  - providing a disposable first liner forming a reservoir having an opening;
  - attaching the first liner to a closure to close the opening;
  - introducing into the reservoir a cell suspension comprised of culture medium and one of cells or a microorganism;
  - culturing the cells or microorganism in the reservoir;

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detaching the first liner from the closure after culturing the cells or microorganism; and

attaching a second liner to the closure after detaching the first liner;

13. (Amended) The method of claim 10 comprising the step of detecting a growth characteristic of the cell or microorganism in the cell suspension and varying the aerating fluid composition in response to the detected characteristic.
14. (Amended) The method of claim 13 wherein the reservoir is translucent, and the step of detecting a growth characteristic comprises optically detecting a characteristic of the cell suspension while the cell suspension is in the reservoir.
15. (Amended) The method of claim 10 comprising the step of detecting a growth characteristic of the cell suspension and varying the aerating fluid flow rate in response to the detected characteristic.
16. (Amended) The method of claim 15 wherein the reservoir is translucent, and the step of detecting a growth characteristic comprised optically detecting a characteristic of the cell suspension while the cell suspension is in the reservoir.

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17. (Amended) A method for culturing cells and/or a microorganisms, comprising the steps of:
- providing a first flexible plastic reservoir having a first opening;
  - introducing a culture media into the first reservoir;
  - introducing cells or a microorganism into the first reservoir;
  - closing the first opening so that the first opening is substantially closed while maintaining a port for fluid transfer into the first reservoir;
  - providing a second reservoir having a culture media;
  - circulating the culture media between the first reservoir and the second reservoir through the port in the first opening.
22. (Amended) The method of claim 20 wherein the culture media and the cells or microorganisms are combined to form a cell culture, wherein the method comprises the step of detecting a growth characteristic of the cell or microorganism in the cell culture and varying the flow rate and/or composition characteristic of the aerating fluid.
23. (Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the method comprises varying characteristic of the aerating fluid is the flow rate of the aerating fluid.
24. (Amended) The method of claim 22 wherein the method comprises varying a characteristic of the aerating fluid is the composition of the aerating fluid.

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**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a)**

I hereby certify that this Response and accompanying papers are being deposited on **January 31, 2003** with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope properly addressed to COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, Washington, DC 20231

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